# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

#### OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE & INSPECTION

IN RE: New England Union Co., Inc. FILE NO.: OCI-HW-13-122

# NOTICE OF VIOLATION

# A. Introduction

Pursuant to Sections 42-17.1-2(21) and 42-17.6-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, ("R.I. Gen. Laws") you are hereby notified that the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (the "Director" of "DEM") has reasonable grounds to believe that the above-named party ("Respondent") has violated certain statutes and/or administrative regulations under the DEM's jurisdiction.

### B. Facts

- (1) The facility is located at 107 Hay Street in the town of West Warwick, Rhode Island (the "Facility"). The Facility is engaged in the casting and manufacture of specialty brass and metal based products.
- (2) The Respondent operates the Facility.
- (3) The Respondent is registered with the DEM as a large quantity hazardous waste generator at the Facility pursuant to the DEM's *Rules and Regulations for Hazardous Waste Management* (the "Hazardous Waste Regulations") and pursuant to Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations ("40 CFR") under the name of "New England Union, Co., Inc." with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency identification number RID987490315.
- (4) The Facility generates foundry sand that it is managing as hazardous waste (the "Foundry Sand").
- (5) On 11 December 2013 the DEM inspected the Facility. The inspection revealed:
  - (a) 1 container located in the grinding room holding a broken furnace liner, broken crucible and sand that may meet the definition of hazardous waste (the "Uncharacterized Waste").
  - (b) Foundry Sand on a cement pad underneath the air pollution control device on the south exterior wall near the initial shake out room (the "Uncontained Foundry Sand").

- (c) 5 containers holding Foundry Sand located in the mold making/mixing room (the "Mold Making Containers"), 1 container holding Foundry Sand located in the initial shake out room (the "Initial Shake Out Container"), and 4 containers holding Foundry Sand located in the final shakeout/cleaning room (the "Final Shake Out Containers"), none of which were marked with an accumulation start date.
- (d) 3 of the Mold Making Containers and 2 of the Final Shake Out Containers were open.
- (e) 3 containers holding used oil and 1 container holding used oil solids located in a garage that were not labeled (the "Used Oil Containers").
- (6) Brent Petit, the Respondent's vice president of operations, stated that it was the Respondent's usual practice to dispose of the Uncharacterized Waste as a solid waste.
- (7) On 17 December 2013 and 19 December 2013 the Respondent submitted photographs to the DEM showing that the Used Oil Containers were now properly labeled.
- (8) As of the date of this Notice of Violation ("NOV"), the Respondent has failed to demonstrate that it is in compliance with the DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulations for the violations described in Facts B(5)(a) through (d).

# C. <u>Violation</u>

Based on the foregoing facts, the Director has reasonable grounds to believe that you have violated the following statutes and/or regulations:

- (1) **DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 5.8 and 40 CFR 262.11** requiring that a hazardous waste generator determine if the waste generated onsite meets the definition of a hazardous waste.
- (2) **DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 5.2A and 40 CFR 265.31** requiring that a generator operate its facility in a manner that minimizes the possibility of an unplanned release of hazardous waste to air, soil or surface water.
- (3) **DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 5.2A and 40 CFR 262.34 (a)(2)** requiring that a hazardous waste generator mark containers holding hazardous waste with the date upon which the waste first began to accumulate.
- (4) DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 5.2A, 40 CFR 262.34(a)(1)(i) and 40 CFR 265.173(a) requiring that a hazardous waste generator keep containers holding hazardous waste closed except when adding or removing waste.
- (5) **DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 15.4A3** requiring that a used oil generator label the containers with "used oil".

# D. Order

Based upon the violations alleged above and pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21), you are hereby ORDERED to:

(1) **IMMEDIATELY** clean up and properly manage the Uncontained Foundry Sand and modify the procedure for removing Foundry Sand from the air pollution control device located on the south exterior wall near the initial shake out room to prevent future releases of Foundry Sand to the ground.

# (2) Within 30 days of receipt of the NOV:

- (a) Collect a representative sample of the Uncharacterized Waste, submit the sample to a laboratory for analysis to determine if the waste meets the definition of hazardous waste in accordance with the requirements of the DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulation 5.8 and submit a copy of the analytical results to the DEM's Office of Compliance & Inspection. In the event that the waste is determined to meet the definition of a hazardous waste, IMMEDIATELY begin managing the waste in accordance with the applicable requirements of the DEM's Hazardous Waste Regulations.
- (b) Mark all containers holding hazardous waste, excluding satellite accumulation containers, with the date upon which the hazardous waste first began to accumulate.
- (c) Close and keep closed all containers holding hazardous waste except when adding or removing waste.

# E. Penalty

(1) Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.6-2, the following administrative penalty, as more specifically described in the attached penalty summary and worksheets, is hereby ASSESSED, jointly and severally, against each named respondent:

# Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000)

(2) The proposed administrative penalty is calculated pursuant to the DEM's *Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties*, as amended, and must be paid to the DEM within 30 days of your receipt of the NOV. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check, cashiers check or money order made payable to the "General Treasury - Environmental Response Fund," and shall be forwarded to the DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection, 235 Promenade Street, Suite 220, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767.

- (3) Penalties assessed against the Respondent in this NOV are penalties payable to and for the benefit of the State of Rhode Island and are not compensation for actual pecuniary loss.
- (4) If any violation alleged herein shall continue, then each day during which the violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offense and the penalties and/or costs for that violation shall continue to accrue in the manner set forth in the attached penalty summary and worksheets. The accrual of additional penalties and costs shall be suspended if the DEM determines that reasonable efforts have been made to comply promptly with this NOV.

# F. Right to Administrative Hearing

- (1) Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, 42-17.7 and 42-35, each named respondent is entitled to request a hearing before the DEM Administrative Adjudication Division regarding the allegations, orders and/or penalties set forth in Paragraphs B through E above. All requests for hearing MUST:
  - (a) Be in writing. <u>See</u> R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.6-4(b);
  - (b) Be **RECEIVED** by the DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division, at the following address, within 20 days of your receipt of this NOV. <u>See</u> R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.7-9:

Administrative Clerk
DEM - Administrative Adjudication Division
One Capitol Hill, 2<sup>ND</sup> Floor
Providence, RI 02903

- (c) Indicate whether you deny the alleged violations and/or whether you believe that the administrative penalty is excessive. See R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.6-4(b); AND
- (d) State clearly and concisely the specific issues which are in dispute, the facts in support thereof and the relief sought or involved, if any. See Rule 7.00(b) of the DEM's Administrative Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Administrative Adjudication Division of Environmental Matters.
- (2) A copy of each request for hearing must also be forwarded to:

Joseph J. LoBianco, Esquire DEM - Office of Legal Services 235 Promenade Street, 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor Providence, RI 02908-5767

(3) Each named respondent has the right to be represented by legal counsel at all administrative proceedings relating to this matter.

- (4) Each respondent must file a separate and timely request for an administrative hearing before the DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division as to each violation alleged in the written NOV. If any respondent fails to request a hearing in the above-described time or manner with regard to any violation set forth herein, then this NOV shall automatically become a Final Compliance Order enforceable in Superior Court as to that respondent and/or violation and any associated administrative penalty proposed in the NOV shall be final as to that respondent. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and (v) and 42-17.6-4(b) and (c).
- (5) Failure to comply with this NOV may subject each respondent to additional civil and/or criminal penalties.
- (6) This NOV does not preclude the Director from taking any additional enforcement action nor does it preclude any other local, state, or federal governmental entities from initiating enforcement actions based on the acts or omissions described herein.

If you have any legal questions, you may contact (or if you are represented by an attorney, please have your attorney contact) Joseph J. LoBianco at the DEM Office of Legal Services at (401) 222-6607. All other inquiries should be directed to Tracey Tyrrell of the DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection at (401) 222-1360 ext. 7407.

Please be advised that any such inquiries do not postpone, eliminate, or otherwise extend the need for a timely submittal of a written request for a hearing, as described in Section F above.

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TOR THE DIRECTOR
David E. Chopy, Chief
DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection
Data
Date:

# **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that on the day the within Notice of Violation was forwarded to:	y of
New England U c/o Geoffrey P. 495 Post Road Warwick, RI 02	Malo, Registered Agent
by Certified Mail.	



# ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY SUMMARY

Program: OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INSPECTION, HAZARDOUS WASTE

File No.: OCI-HW-13-122

Respondent: New England Union Co., Inc.

GRAVITY OF VIOLATION SEE ATTACHED "PENALTY MATRIX WORKSHEETS."					
VIOLATION No. & CITATION	& APPLICATION OF MATRIX PENALTY CALCULATION		AMOUNT		
	Туре	Deviation	Penalty from Matrix	Number or Duration of Violations	
C (1)- Failure to determine if waste a hazardous waste	Type I (\$ <u>25,000</u> Max. Penalty)*	Minor	\$2,500	1 violation	\$2,500
C (2) – Uncontrolled release of foundry sand to the ground	Type I (\$ <u>25,000</u> Max. Penalty)*	Moderate	\$6,250	1 violation	\$6,250
C (3) & (4) – Failure to label containers with accumulation date and keep containers closed	Type I (\$ <u>25,000</u> Max. Penalty)*	Moderate Minor	\$12,500 \$6,250	1 violation 1 violation	\$18,750
C (5) – Failure to properly label containers holding used oil	Type I (\$ <u>25,000</u> Max. Penalty)*	Minor	\$2,500	1 violation	\$2,500
SUB-TOTAL				\$30,000	

<sup>\*</sup>Maximum Penalties represent the maximum penalty amounts per day, per violation.

# ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY SUMMARY (continued)

# ECONOMIC BENEFIT FROM NONCOMPLIANCE

COSTS OF COMPLIANCE, EQUIPMENT, O&M, STUDIES OR OTHER DELAYED OR AVOIDED COSTS, INCLUDING INTEREST AND/OR ANY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE DERIVED OVER ENTITIES THAT ARE IN COMPLIANCE. NOTE: ECONOMIC BENEFIT MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PENALTY UNLESS:

- THERE IS NO IDENTIFIABLE BENEFIT FROM NONCOMPLIANCE; OR
- THE AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC BENEFIT CAN NOT BE QUANTIFIED.

A review of the record in this matter has revealed that the Respondent has either enjoyed no identifiable benefit from the noncompliance alleged in this enforcement action or that the amount of economic benefit that may have resulted can not be quantified.

# **COST RECOVERY**

ADDITIONAL OR EXTRAORDINARY COSTS INCURRED BY THE DIRECTOR DURING THE INVESTIGATION, ENFORCEMENT AND RESOLUTION OF AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION (EXCLUDING NON-OVERTIME PERSONNEL COSTS), FOR WHICH THE STATE IS NOT OTHERWISE REIMBURSED.

A review of the record in this matter has revealed that the DEM has not incurred any additional or extraordinary costs during the investigation, enforcement and resolution of this enforcement action (excluding non-overtime personnel costs), for which the State is not otherwise reimbursed.

**TOTAL PENALTY PROPOSED UNDER PENALTY REGULATIONS= \$30,000** 

CITATION: Failure to determine if waste a hazardous waste

VIOLATION NO.: C (1)

# **TYPE**

X TYPE I

<u>DIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# TYPE II

INDIRECTLY related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

## TYPE III

<u>INCIDENTAL</u> to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# **DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD**

THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.

#### **FACTORS CONSIDERED:**

Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties

- (A) The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance: The Respondent failed to determine if a solid waste, in the form of a crucible and furnace sand, met the definition of a hazardous waste. State and Federal regulations require generators of waste to determine if their waste meets the definition of a hazardous waste. The failure to properly characterize waste may result in the mismanagement of hazardous waste and lead to improper disposal of hazardous waste.
- (B) **Environmental conditions:** The Respondent stated that the usual practice is to dispose of the material as a solid waste.
- (C) Amount of the pollutant: 1 container holding about 110 gallons of waste.
- (D) **Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:** Unknown. The Respondent as failed to determine if the waste contains hazardous constituents.
- (E) **Duration of the violation:** Unknown.
- (F) Areal extent of the violation: Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.

- (G) Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance: The Respondent failed to take reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent the violation by determining if the waste meets the definition of a hazardous waste prior to disposing of it as a solid waste.
- (H) Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.
- (I) The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable: The Respondent had complete control over the occurrence of the violation and failed to take steps to prevent the occurrence.
- (J) Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

MAJOR	MODERATE	X MINOR
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applicable s	Matrix where the statute provides for alty up to \$ 25,000	TYPE I	TYPE II	TYPE III
DEVIATION	MAJOR	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
FROM	MODERATE	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
STANDARD	MINOR	\$2,500 to \$6,250 <b>\$2,500</b>	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250

CITATION: Uncontrolled release of foundry sand to the ground

VIOLATION NO.: C (2)

### **TYPE**

X TYPE I

<u>DIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

#### TYPE II

INDIRECTLY related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

#### TYPE III

<u>INCIDENTAL</u> to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# **DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD**

THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.

#### **FACTORS CONSIDERED:**

Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties

- (A) The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance: The Respondent failed to operate the facility in a manner that prevents the occurrence of spills and/or releases of hazardous waste. The Respondent operates an air pollution control device located on the south exterior wall of the facility that allows hazardous waste to accumulate on the ground surface. The accumulated hazardous waste is comprised of foundry sand and dust and may be subject to wind action that may result in the release of hazardous constituents to the air and land. State and Federal regulations require generators of hazardous waste to operate in a manner that prevents the spill or unplanned release of hazardous waste constituents to the air, land or water.
- (B) **Environmental conditions:** The hazardous waste is allowed to accumulate on the ground beneath the air pollution control device which is located outside the facility and is exposed to wind and precipitation.
- (C) **Amount of the pollutant:** Unknown. At the time of the inspection the DEM inspector observed an accumulation of hazardous waste in the form of foundry sand and dust on the ground; however, the exact amount was not determined.
- (D) **Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:** The hazardous waste is foundry sand that contains lead which is a toxic metal.
- (E) **Duration of the violation:** Unknown.
- (F) Areal extent of the violation: Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.

- (G) Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance: The Respondent failed to take reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent the violation by operating the facility in a manner that prevents the release of hazardous waste. The Respondent failed to mitigate the noncompliance by allowing foundry sand to accumulate on the ground outside the facility.
- (H) Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.
- (I) The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable: The Respondent had complete control over the occurrence of the violation and failed to take steps to prevent the occurrence.
- (J) Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

applicable s	Matrix where the statute provides for alty up to \$ 25,000	TYPE I	TYPE II	TYPE III
DEVIATION	MAJOR	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
FROM	MODERATE	\$6,250 to \$12,500 <b>\$6,250</b>	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
STANDARD -	MINOR	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250

CITATION: Failure to label containers with accumulation date and keep containers closed

VIOLATION NO.: C (3) & (4)

### **TYPE**

X TYPE I

<u>DIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# TYPE II

INDIRECTLY related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

#### TYPE III

<u>INCIDENTAL</u> to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# **DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD**

THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.

#### **FACTORS CONSIDERED:**

Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties

- (A) The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance: The Respondent failed to mark containers holding hazardous waste with an accumulation date and to keep the containers closed when not in use. State and Federal regulations require generators to mark containers holding hazardous waste, excluding satellite accumulation containers, with the date upon which the waste first began to accumulate. The requirement to mark containers holding hazardous waste with the accumulation date enables facility personnel and regulatory agencies to ensure compliance with the less than 90 day accumulation time limit for hazardous waste storage. The regulations also require generators to keep containers holding hazardous waste closed except when adding or removing waste.
- (B) **Environmental conditions:** Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.
- (C) **Amount of the pollutant:** 10 one cubic yard containers were not dated and 5 one cubic yard containers were open at the time of the inspection.
- (D) **Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:** The hazardous waste is foundry sand that contains lead which is a toxic metal.
- (E) **Duration of the violation:** Unknown.
- (F) Areal extent of the violation: Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.

- (G) Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance: The Respondent failed to take reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent the violation by marking containers with an accumulation date and keeping the containers closed except when adding or removing waste.
- (H) Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce: On 4 November 2010 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued an enforcement action for hazardous waste violations that included the failure to keep containers of hazardous waste closed.
- (I) The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable: The Respondent had complete control over the occurrence of the violation and failed to take steps to prevent the occurrence.
- (J) Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

	MAJOR	X MODERATE	X MINOR
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applicable s	Matrix where the statute provides for alty up to \$ 25,000	TYPE I	TYPE II	TYPE III
	MAJOR	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
DEVIATION FROM STANDARD	MODERATE	\$6,250 to \$12,500 <b>\$12,500</b> (accumulation start date)	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
	MINOR	\$2,500 to \$6,250 <b>\$6,250</b> (open containers)	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250

CITATION: Failure to properly label containers holding used oil

VIOLATION NO.: C (5)

# TYPE X TYPE I DIRECTLY related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment. TYPE II INDIRECTLY related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment. TYPE III INCIDENTAL to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.

# **DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD**

THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.

## **FACTORS CONSIDERED:**

Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties

- (A) The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance: The Respondent failed to label containers holding used oil with the words "used oil". The requirement to label containers holding used oil is an integral part of the regulatory program because these requirements reduce the potential for mismanagement of hazardous waste. Proper labeling of containers provides important information regarding the chemical properties of the waste for emergency responders who may be called to a facility during a fire, spill or release.
- (B) Environmental conditions: Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.
- (C) **Amount of the pollutant:** Three 50-gallon containers holding used oil and one 55-gallon container holding absorbent material contaminated with used oil.
- (D) **Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:** Used oil is known to cause soil contamination when released to the environment and may contain constituents that are suspected human carcinogens.
- (E) **Duration of the violation:** Unknown.
- (F) **Areal extent of the violation:** Considered, but not utilized in this calculation.

- (G) Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance: At the time of the inspection the Respondent had failed to take reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent the violation by labeling the containers holding used oil. On 17 December 2013 the Respondent submitted photographs to DEM showing that it corrected the violation by affixing new labels on the containers.
- (H) Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.
- (I) The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable: The Respondent had complete control over the occurrence of the violation and failed to take steps to prevent the occurrence.
- (J) Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty: Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

MAJOR	MODERATE	X MINOR
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applicable s	Matrix where the statute provides for alty up to \$ 25,000	TYPE I	TYPE II	TYPE III
DEVIATION	MAJOR	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
FROM	MODERATE	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
STANDARD -	MINOR	\$2,500 to \$6,250 <b>\$2,500</b>	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250